

arrangement between Air India and Singapore Airlines under which Air India will be entitled to a block of seats on Singapore Airlines' flights to points in U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand at an agreed price. The above agreement is being placed before the Government for approval.

Holding of Examination

2973. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Osmania and Kakatiya Universities were conducted one sitting examination for awarding graduate and post graduate degrees for the last 22 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this practice has been discontinued on the direction of UGC;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether in spite of direction given by the Andhra High Court to conduct the examination, this examination has not been conducted so far affecting the future of near about 1 lakh students; and

(f) if so, the main reasons thereof and time by which the said examination is likely to be conducted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (f) According to the information furnished by UGC, Osmania and Kakatiya Universities have been offering one-sitting degree courses at under-graduate and post-graduate levels. UGC Regulations (1985) regarding Minimum Standards of Instruction for the grant of the first degree, inter-alia, provide that "No student shall be eligible for the award of the first degree unless he has successfully completed a three year course." The Commission considered the matter in its meetings held in March and September, 1996 and June, 1997 and decided that in view of the above Regulations, no university be allowed to enrol candidates for one-sitting B.A. degree course from the year 1996-97 onwards.

As regards the Masters' Degree, the Commission decided that, in view of proviso to the above Regulations, no student shall be eligible to seek admission to the Masters' Course who has not successfully pursued the first degree course of three years, duration.

Mittal Report

2974. SHRI KARIA MUNDA :
SHRI ANCHAL DAS :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for non-implementation of Mittal Report during the three years;

(b) the action taken/proposed to fulfill Parliament assurances and reasons for delaying report;

(c) whether reservation is applicable in promotion from Group 'A' to within Group 'A' & upto which post 40 Point Roster was applied during 1991-93; and

(d) if roster is not applicable from Group 'A' to 'A' how SC/ST are shown promoted against reservation ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) The main recommendation of Mittal Committee Report pertaining to annulment of amendment of the R&P Rules has already been implemented. Action on other recommendation is under consideration which is likely to take some more time as the issues involved are complex. The matter is also under discussion with National Commission for SCs/STs. However, efforts are being made to expedite action.

(c) Reservation is applicable for promotions upto the lowest rung of Group 'A' posts only and the 40 point roster was made applicable accordingly for promotions affected between 1991 to 1993, including subsequent Review DPCs. No reservation is applicable in promotion with Group 'A'.

(d) Position already explained at (c) above.

[Translation]

Tourism Projects in Haryana

2975. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Haryana Government has sent some tourism projects for the approval of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has prioritised the